

To: Workman, Rosemary[Workman.Rosemary@epa.gov]
From: Pickard, Brian
Sent: Wed 1/15/2014 3:08:07 PM
Subject: FW: EOC Spot Report: Chemical Spill, Charleston WV – Update #11

FYI – latest report from last night.

-BCP

From: Eoc, Epahq
Sent: Tuesday, January 14, 2014 10:02 PM
Subject: EOC Spot Report: Chemical Spill, Charleston WV – Update #11

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EOC Spot Report: Chemical Spill, Charleston WV – Update #11

US Environmental Protection Agency

Report as of 2200 January 14, 2014

Overview: On January 10, the President approved an Emergency Declaration for the State of West Virginia after a chemical leaked at a Freedom Industries chemical plant and into the Elk River in Charleston, WV. The spill occurred near the Kanawha Valley Water Treatment Plant which detected the chemical even after an increased carbon treatment effort was put in place. Freedom Industries is working to clean up the spill at the facility and in the river.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: West Virginia water authorities have issued a “Do Not Use Water Notice” for 10 counties and the President’s Emergency Declaration covers eight counties. West Virginia American Water (WVAW) customers are told not to use tap water for drinking, cooking, washing, or bathing. Water can be used for toilets and fire emergencies. This has impact 300,000 people.

A confined-space certified contractor entered the breached tank in the presence of the CSB, EPA, and the Attorney General’s staff. The purpose was to witness the photography of the hole in the bottom of the tank.

Poly liner was placed on the surface of the site soils, beginning under the mouth of the storm water pipe and extending down the slope, then along the existing interceptor trench. The liner should contain all of the storm water that is flowing beneath the secondary containment of the tank farm. The contractor continually pumped the storm water into vacuum trucks. WVAW began to replace the entire section of water line that runs adjacent to the facility, which is located on the opposite side of the road. This new line may diminish the water flowing beneath the containment pad.

Analytical results are expected tomorrow morning for the soil sample data from the geoprobe/sampling operations and water sample data from the river sampling program, which is continuing. Plans remain to punch sumps around the breached tank to investigate the possible presence of the MCHM beneath the tank farm. WVDEP determined that the half-life of the chemical mixture is 28 days in soil; the half-life of the chemical mixture in water may possibly be 14 days or less.

EPA Actions: USCG, WVDEP, EPA, and the facility held a meeting to discuss USCG’s boom deployment strategy which was approved by WVDEP and EPA. The facility agreed to the

strategy and directed their contractor to deploy the boom. The contractor deployed boom around the Etowah River Terminal's outfall, located at the southwestern end of the facility and also at the northeastern end of the facility, approximately 20 feet upstream of the property fence line (upstream of the spill area). The boom installed at the WVAW is expected to be removed tonight. WVAWC's protective measures will remain in place.

Media Interest: High

The HQ EOC will continue to monitor and provide updates as needed.

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Tim Grier, Watch Officer

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